# STARBLAZER

FANTASY FICTION IN PICTURES No. 260

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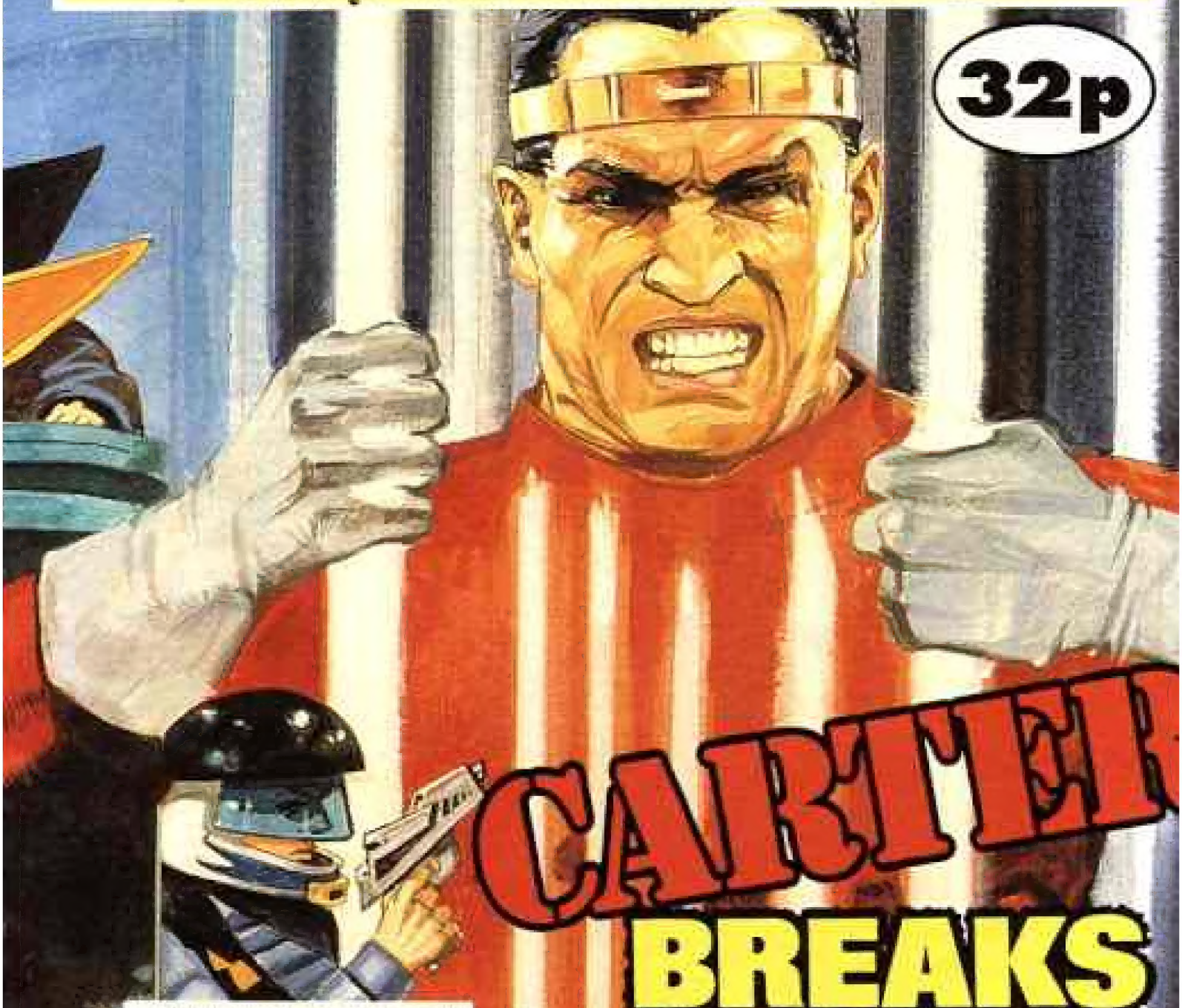

## CARTER BREAKS LOOSE

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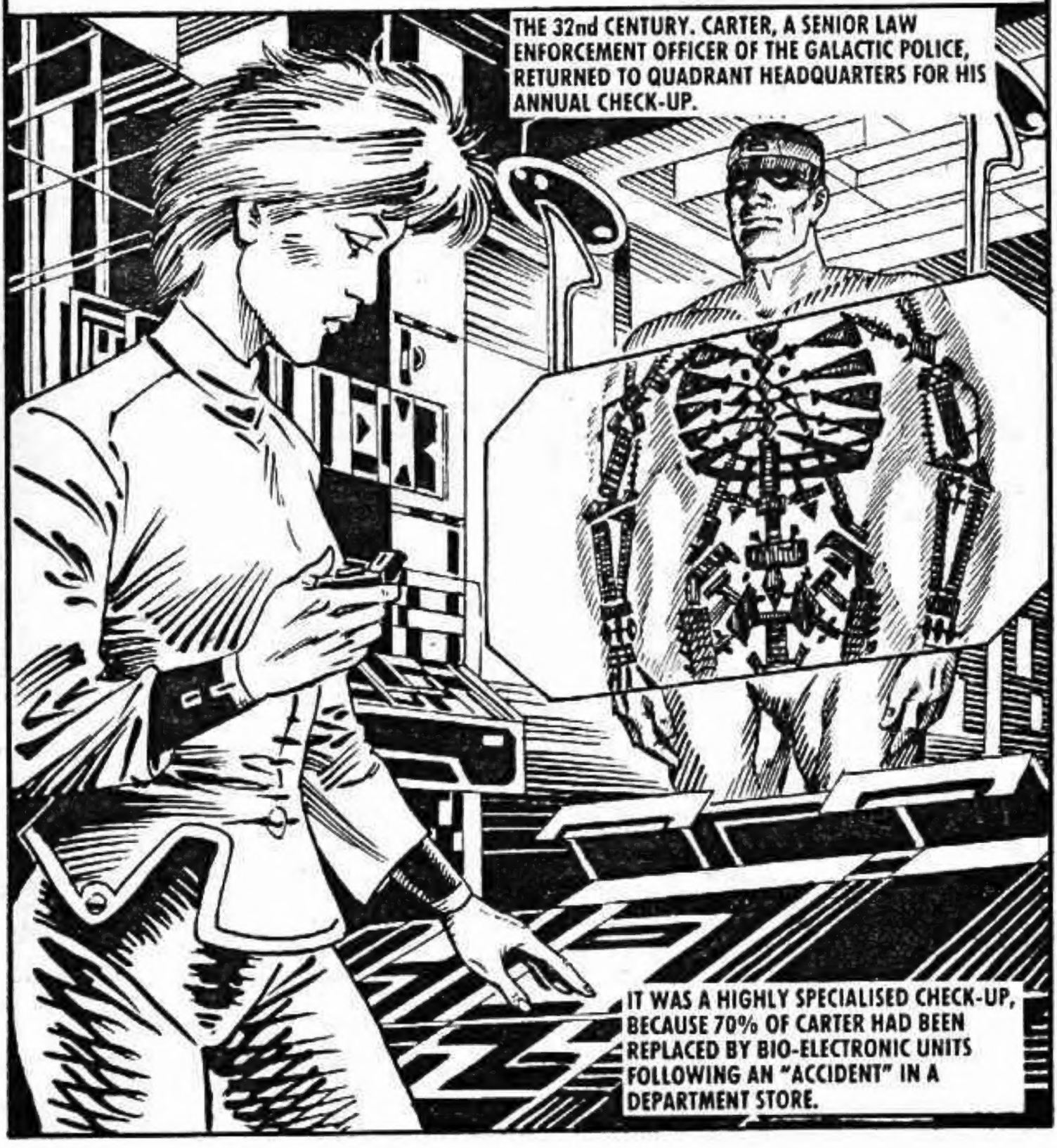
DON'T MISS

THIS MONTH'S OTHER ACTION-PACKED ADVENTURE

NOW ON SALE

# CARTER BREAKS LOOSE



THE IMPROVED LINKAGE OF THESE NEW ARMS SHOULD INCREASE EVEN YOUR REACTION TIME, CARTER.
YOU MEAN I'M GETTING NEW BITS INSTEAD OF RECYCLED ONES, DOC! THINGS ARE LOOKING UP.

CHECKED, RENEWED IN PARTS, CARTER WAS PASSED FIT FOR DUTY.
NEW HEADQUARTERS, NEW GEAR EVERYWHERE, EVEN SOME NEW-LOOKING COPS. A LOT OF NEWNESS HAS CREPT IN DURING MY YEAR ON THE FRINGE BEAT.

I COULD SAY IT'S NICE TO HAVE YOU BACK, CARTER — ONLY IT IS NOT. YOU ARE A PAIN IN THE OFFICAL NECK. WHAT I WOULD LIKE IS TO SHUNT YOU STRAIGHT BACK TO THE OUTER LIMITS.
I'D LIKE THAT TOO, CHIEF — ONLY REGULATIONS STIPULATE A BREAK OF TWO MONTHS BEFORE DEEP-SPACING AGAIN. LOOKS LIKE WE'RE BOTH STUCK.
YOU NEVER TAKE LEAVE AND I DON'T INTEND DETAILING YOU TO REGULAR POLICE WORK. A KILLING MACHINE LIKE YOU IS A BAD EXAMPLE TO OTHER OFFICERS.
BEG PARDON, SIR. MAY I HAVE A QUIET WORD WITH YOU?
ACUTE HEARING WAS ONE OF CARTER'S BIONIC PROPERTIES.
IT'S NEARLY TIME FOR HIS VISIT, SIR. PERHAPS I SHOULD GET CARTER OUT OF THE WAY TILL IT'S OVER.
YOU'RE RIGHT! CAN'T TAKE RISKS WITH THE FIRST DOSS TO SHOW PROPER APPRECIATION OF A COP'S WORK.

CARTER WAS HURRIED AWAY —
MOVE IT!
DOSS — DIRECTOR OF SUPREME SENATE. HE MUST BE NEW TOO. THERE WAS AN ELECTION WHILE I WAS AWAY.
ADMINISTRATION! GET WORKING, CARTER. I WANT A FULL REPORT OF YOUR DUTIES AND POSTINGS OVER THIS PAST YEAR.
A DESK JOB . . . JUST WHAT I ALWAYS WANTED.

CARTER WAS LEFT TO HIS TASK.
OFFICER, CAN'T YOU GO SOMEWHERE ELSE? ME AND MY ROBOMECH NEED QUIET FOR A DELICATE REPAIR JOB ON THIS ITEM OF APPARATUS.
ATTENTION! STAND-TO FOR INSPECTION.
I AM ABOUT TO PLUG IN TO THE COMPUTER.
ABOVE AVERAGE RESPIRATION AND PULSE-RATE — THE MECHANIC IS EITHER UNWELL OR AGITATED.
THE VISITOR HAS ARRIVED.

CARTER TOOK A LOOK AT THE NEW DOSS, THE SUPREME OFFICIAL OF SUPREME POWER OF THE HOME PLANET SPACE QUADRANT.
YOUNG FOR THE JOB. USUALLY TAKES YEARS OF INFIGHTING BEFORE ANYBODY CAN GET SO HIGH ON THE POLITICAL LADDER.

OUR OPERATIONS ROOM, MISTER DIRECTOR. THE LATEST IN AUTOMATED EFFICIENCY THANKS TO YOUR FUNDING OF THE SERVICE.
LONG OVERDUE, CHIEF. THE FIRST DUTY OF GOVERNMENT IS TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER.
WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY NOW, OFFICER.
THAT DELICATE REPAIR JOB DIDN'T TAKE LONG.
SEALS UNDISTURBED SINCE THE LAST INSPECTION. NO SIGN OF ANY WORK BY THAT MECH AND HIS ROBOMECH. A TIMESHEET FIDDLE OR — *HUM*, I WONDER!

THE HUMAN PART OF HIM STARTED CARTER HURRYING.
DOSS PARTY IS NOW APPROACHING THE SECOND LEVEL.
THERE THEY ARE!
THE FLOOR BELOW! I'D BETTER HEAD FOR THE VESTIBULE.
A WEAPON HIDDEN IN THE ROBOMECH — A MESON CANNON.

POLICE WARNING! DROP THAT BLASTER!
CARTER'S UNHUMAN REFLEXES SAVED HIM FROM THE MECHANIC'S RESPONSE.

THOSE SAME REFLEXES DISCHARGED AN INSTANT RETURN SHOT.
AAAAHHH!

CARTER!
LOOK, CHIEF — A MESON BLASTER!
CARTER'S ATTENTION WAS DISTRACTED FOR A BRIEF MOMENT —
HUM! NOT A REGULATION WEAPON. HOW DID IT GET INTO HEADQUARTERS?
THAT COP IS DRAWING A BEAD ON THE DOSS.

WHAT HE WAS SEEING DID NOT MAKE SENSE, BUT CARTER TRUSTED HIS VISUAL CAPABILITY.
ONLY ONE COURSE OF ACTION POSSIBLE.
NOW CARTER'S KILLED A FELLOW OFFICER, BOYS, GO GET HIM.
FREEZE — YOU COP-KILLER.

CARTER WAS PLACED UNDER INTERROGATION, THE SUBLIMINAL MEMORY PROJECTED FROM HIS VISUAL DATA-BASE.

I WOULD SAY THAT LETS CARTER OFF THE HOOK, CHIEF. HE MAY HAVE BEEN WRONG, BUT TO HAVE HESITATED WOULD HAVE RISKED MY LIFE AFTER HE HAD SAVED ME FROM THAT FIRST ATTEMPT.
I GUESS YOU ARE RIGHT, SIR.
CARTER, I LIKE YOUR STYLE. YOU COULD BE THE MAN I AM LOOKING FOR TO HEAD MY PERSONAL SECURITY SQUAD.
SIR, RESPECTFULLY, I PREFER TO REMAIN A COP.
CARTER, YOU MAY HAVE BEEN WISE TO TAKE HIS OFFER. YOU ARE NOT GOING TO BE POPULAR AROUND HERE.
THAT'S NOTHING NEW, CHIEF. I REQUEST PERMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THIS ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION.

CARTER WAS CLEARED OF BLAME — THOUGH NOT IN THE EYES OF MANY.
COP-KILLER!
CARTER CHECKED WITH THE BUREAU OF PERSONS —
THE MECHANIC WAS A SMALL-TIME CRIMINAL, JEDMAK. THE ROBOMECH USED FOR SMUGGLING THE WEAPON WAS ON HIRE FROM A COMPANY SPECIALISING IN SUCH MECHANICS.
A HIRED HITMAN, EH! HOW ABOUT THE COP?

A GOOD STEADY COP! NOT THE KIND LIKELY TO SUDDENLY TURN ASSASSIN.
ABEL GAT, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIRD GRADE, ONE OF SIX CLONED BROTHERS CONDITIONED FOR POLICE WORK. THREE YEARS SERVICE, TWO COMMENDATIONS, REGARDED AS A RELIABLE OFFICER OF AVERAGE ABILITY.

WAS I WRONG? NO, I WAS RIGHT. GAT WAS SHOWING ALL THE SIGNS OF INTENT TO KILL.
DEEP IN THOUGHT, CARTER DDN'T HEAR OR SEE THE SPEEDING FLYER.

LIGHTNING REFLEXES TOOK OVER ON THE INSTANT CARTER'S MIND REGISTERED ALARM.
AHUH! A RUNAWAY, BUT WHAT MADE IT RUN?

CONTROLS SET ON AUTO. THIS FLYER WAS DELIBERATELY PUT ON THE MOVE.
HI, COP-KILLER! THAT COULD HAVE BEEN A NASTY ACCIDENT.
A VOICE — AND FOOTSTEPS LIKE SOMEBODY TRYING FOR A QUIET DEPARTURE.
LET'S FIND OUT WHO IT IS.

HUH! A COP?
I'M BALT GAT — ANOTHER GAT FOR YOU TO MURDER. WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
ONE OF THE CLONED BROTHERS OF ABEL GAT, I PRESUME.

CARTER DISCOVERED AN AUDIENCE.
YEAH, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR — COP-KILLER.
MAYBE HE DOESN'T LIKE WITNESSES.
GENTLEMEN, I AM LEAVING.
YOU'RE NOT GETTING OFF THAT EASILY!
BALT GAT WAS QUICK, BUT NOT QUICK ENOUGH.
PARAGRAPH NINE, SUB-SECTION SIX — ASSAULT ON AN OFFICER BY ANOTHER OFFICER IS AN OFFENCE CALLING FOR COURT MARTIAL.

BALT SPOKE, HIS VOICE MUTED TO AN AUDIO LEVEL ONLY DETECTABLE BY CARTER.
A SET-UP — HAD TO PLAY ALONG. GOT THINGS TO TELL YOU. I'LL MAKE CONTACT LATER. NOW DUMP ME.
AS YOU WISH!
JOIN YOUR MATES!

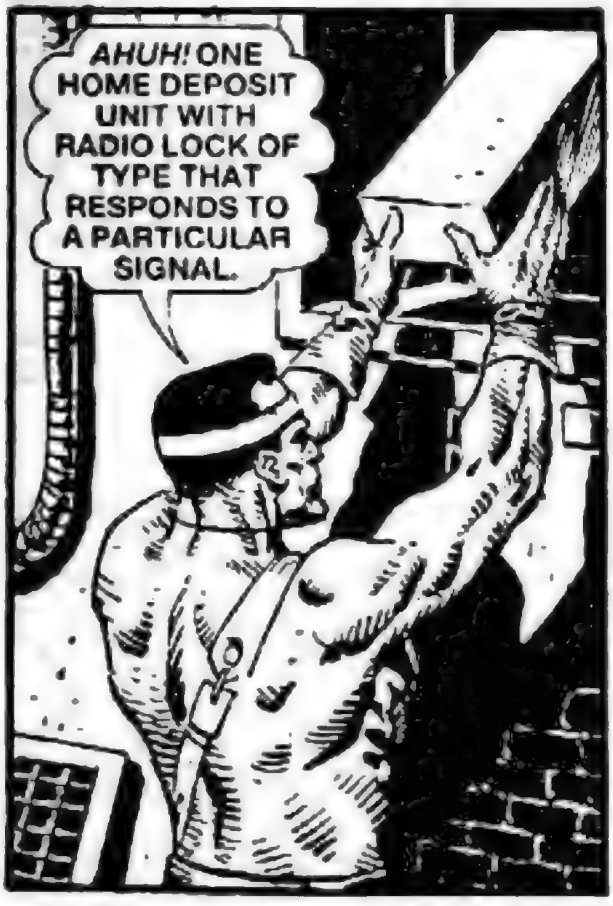
COLLEAGUES, IT'S BEEN FUN, BUT I MUST GO.
GET HIM!
CARTER CAME UNDER ASSAULT.
GET HIM!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT BALT GAT MEANS BY A SET-UP, BUT HE SEEMS TO BE PLAYING HIS PART VERY WELL.

THAT'S ENOUGH, YOU SIMIAN MISFITS!
INSPECTOR MAZER, THE DEPUTY CHIEF.
ACTION PROMPTLY CEASED—
JUST A BIT OF FUN, SIR.
I DIDN'T HEAR ANY LAUGHING. ALL RIGHT, YOU CLOWNS, RETURN TO YOUR DUTIES — BUT NOT YOU, CARTER. I WANT A WORD WITH YOU.
CARTER — YOU ARE TO BLAME FOR THIS BECAUSE OF YOUR REPUTATION. I SHALL ADVISE THE CHIEF THAT THIS ASSAULT ON FELLOW OFFICERS SHOULD GO TO A COURT MARTIAL.
INSPECTOR MAZER, YOUR COMMENTS HAVE BEEN RECORDED IN THE RUBBISH SECTION OF MY DATABASE. NOW EXCUSE ME WHILE I GET ON WITH BEING A COP.

CARTER TOOK HIS INVESTIGATION DOWNTOWN.
THIS IS THE LAST RECORDED ADDRESS OF ONE JED MAK, SMALL-TIME FELON DECEASED WHILST INVOLVED IN ATTEMPTED MURDER.
NEVER HEARD OF HIM. LOTS OF SHADY CHARACTERS COVER THEIR TRACKS WITH A FALSE ADDRESS. YOU'LL HAVE TO LOOK SOME OTHER PLACE, COP.
EXCUSE ME WHILE I REPORT IN . . . VERMIN REPORT. SIGHTING OF LARGE RODENT, SPECIES RATTUS-RATTUS, IN APARTMENT BLOCK 904 OFF SHANGRILA PEDESTRIAN WAY.
HUH! WASSAT?

HUM! MISSED.
WH . . . WHAT?
CARTER WAS ADMITTED TO AN APARTMENT.
JUST LIKE HE LEFT IT, OFFICER.
YOU HAVE A PROBLEM, SIR. A REPORT OF INFESTATION MEANS CLOSING DOWN FOR A FEW WEEKS OF RODENT EXTERMINATION PROCEDURE, THE COST OF WHICH WILL BE MET BY YOURSELF.
HOLD ON, OFFICER — ER, IT'S COMING BACK TO ME. JED MAK! YES, A GUY OF THAT NAME DID HAVE ONE OF MY APARTMENTS.

FIRST A LOOK ROUND. AH, YES — THE AIR-CONDITIONING — THE PANEL HAS BEEN UNSCREWED RECENTLY.


AHUH! ONE HOME DEPOSIT UNIT WITH RADIO LOCK OF TYPE THAT RESPONDS TO A PARTICULAR SIGNAL.

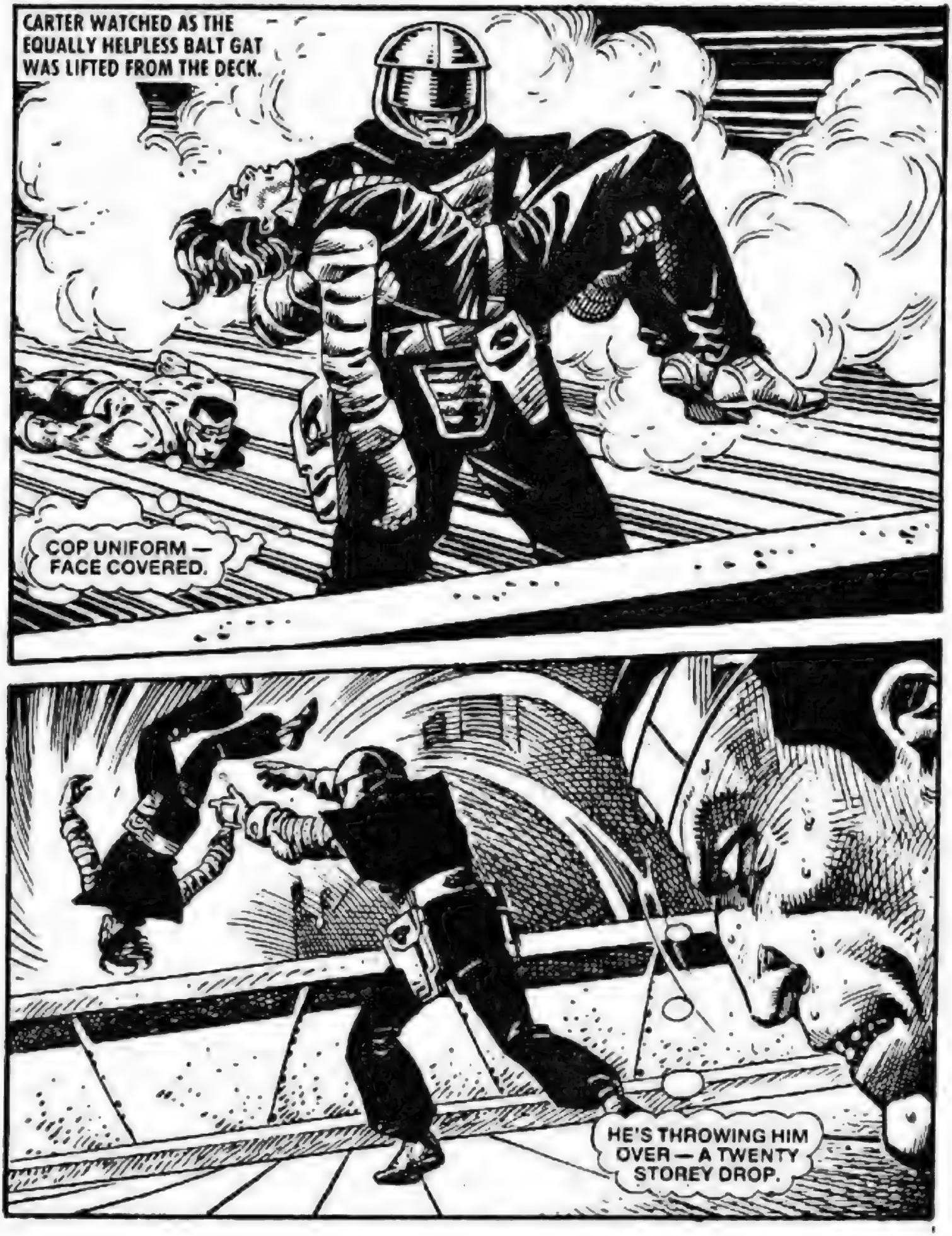
CARTER CRACKED THE LOCK BACK AT HEADQUARTERS.
EXCHANGE CREDITS TO THE VALUE OF A QUARTER MILLION — AND A DATA DISC. LET'S SEE WHAT IT SAYS.

1100 HOURS! ESCORTED BY CHIEF WATIL AND CHOSEN OFFICERS, THE VISITOR WILL PROCEED THROUGH THE OPERATIONS ROOM —
THE ITINERARY OF THE DOSS'S TOUR OF HEADQUARTERS — WHICH COULD COME ONLY FROM AN INSIDE CONTACT.
THERE IS ALSO THIS QUARTER MILLION WHICH HAPPENS TO BE THE AMOUNT DRAWN FROM HIS CREDIT ACCOUNT BY ABEL GAT TWO DAYS BEFORE I SHOT HIM. DEDUCTION — GAT PLANNED AND PAID FOR THE HIT.
MESSAGE INCOMING ON SCRAMBLER. STATES — HELIPAD A.S.A.P. THAT IS ALL.
MUST BE BALT GAT, THE KILLER'S CLONE. A.S.A.P. — AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

CARTER RODE UP BY ANTI-GRAV.
COULD BE A TRAP — A DOUBLE DOUBLE-CROSS. HAS TO BE RISKED. I WANT TO TALK TO BALT GAT AS MUCH AS HE SEEMS TO WANT TO TALK TO ME.
BALT GAT! ALONE AND HE'S PICKED A PLACE WHERE WE CAN'T BE OVERLOOKED BY OTHER BUILDINGS.

CARTER, I AM UNARMED.
I AM NOT! WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND.
CARTER, YOU MUST KNOW OUR HISTORY — SIX CLONE BROTHERS CONDITIONED FOR POLICE WORK. THREE EXPIRED IN THE LINE OF DUTY OVER A YEAR AGO. THAT LEFT ABEL, BRAN, MYSELF. TWO MONTHS BACK THE POWERPOD ON BRAN'S FLYER CUT OUT AND DUMPED HIM FROM TEN THOUSAND FEET.
OFFICIAL VERDICT AN ACCIDENT — ONLY ABEL THOUGHT DIFFERENT. ALL HE TOLD ME WAS THAT BRAN HAD STUMBLED ON SOMETHING BIG AND CROOKED — SOMETHING THAT ABEL INTENDED TO CARRY ON INVESTIGATING.

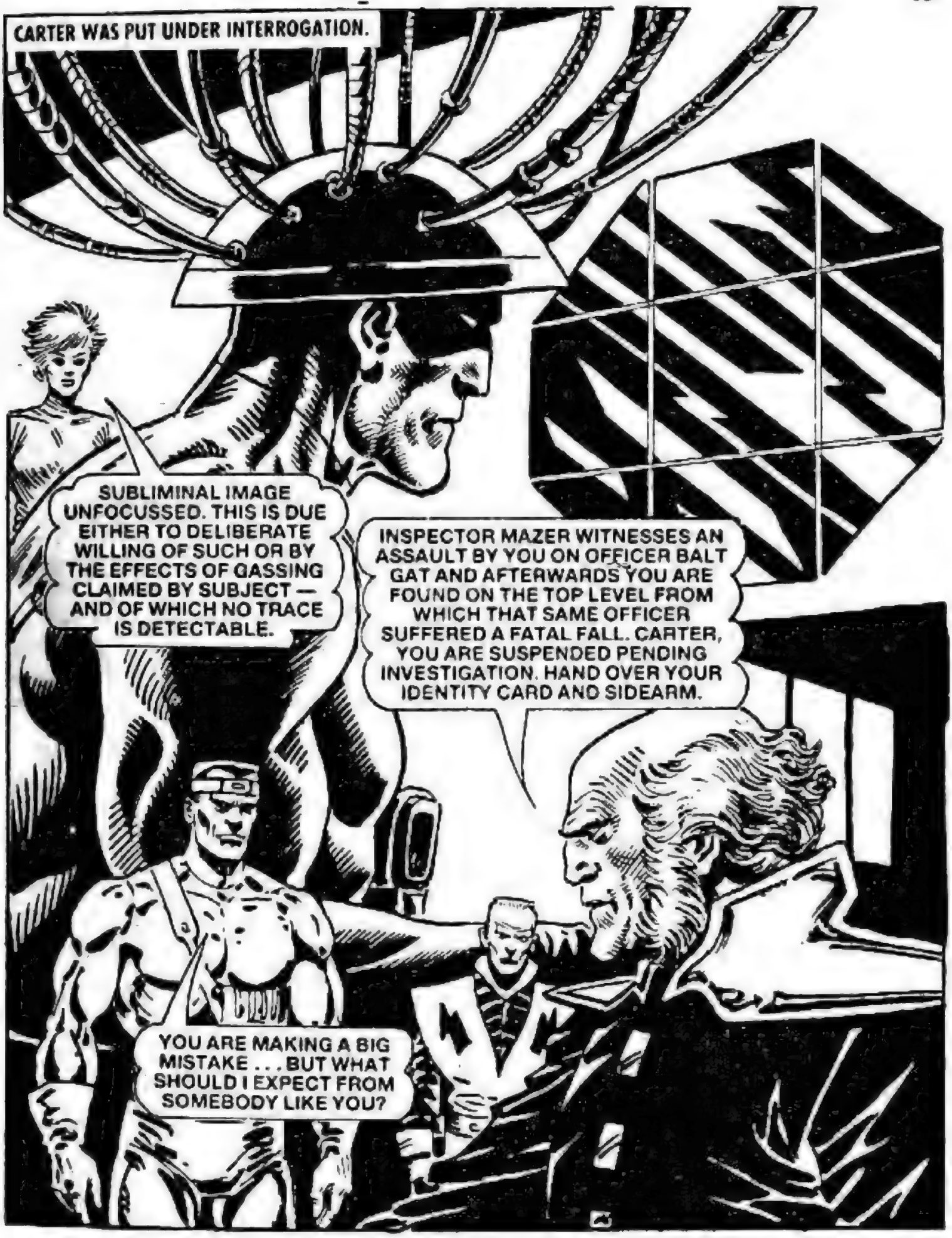
A SOFT HISS OF SOUND — A BILLOWING OF VAPOUR.
A TRAP — SOME KIND OF NERVE AGENT! MY HUMAN SIDE IS BECOMING PARALYZED, BUT MY BIONIC SIDE STILL FUNCTIONS.
CONSCIOUS — INCAPABLE OF MOTION. *URH*— SOMEBODY'S COMING.


CARTER WATCHED AS THE EQUALLY HELPLESS BALT GAT WAS LIFTED FROM THE DECK.
COP UNIFORM — FACE COVERED.
HE'S THROWING HIM OVER — A TWENTY STOREY DROP.

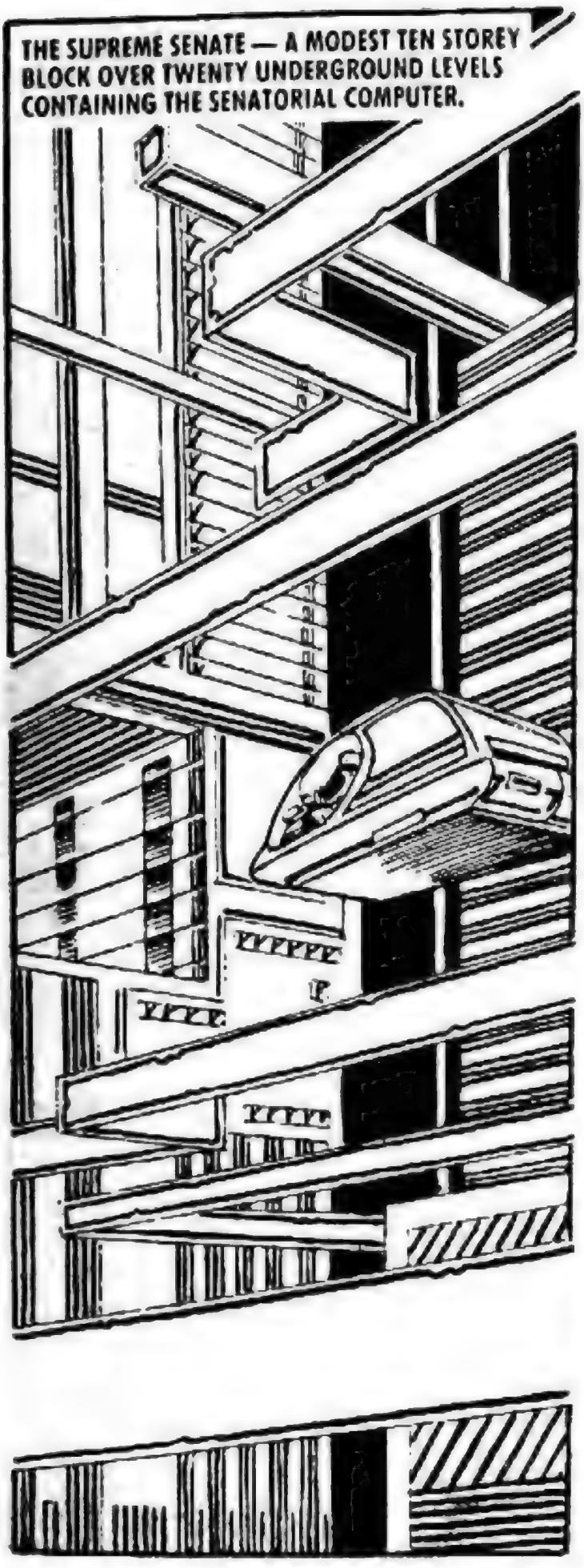
MUTE, HELPLESS — OFFICER BALT GAT FELL IN SILENCE.
NOW A HYPOSHOT FOR YOU, BUDDY-BOY.

THAT'LL FIX YOU UP GOOD REAL SOON. IT'LL EVEN CLEANSE THE CHEMICAL TRACES FROM YOUR BLOOD-STREAM. AIN'T THAT NICE OF ME, BUDDY-BOY!
RECORD VOICE . . . REMEMBER . . .

A FEW MINUTES LATER CARTER FOUND HIMSELF BECOMING MOBILE — JUST AS COMPANY ARRIVED.
THIS IS WHERE HE FELL FROM!
LOOK! CARTER! SETTLING A GRUDGE, NO DOUBT.


CARTER WAS PUT UNDER INTERROGATION.
SUBLIMINAL IMAGE UNFOCUSSED. THIS IS DUE EITHER TO DELIBERATE WILLING OF SUCH OR BY THE EFFECTS OF GASSING CLAIMED BY SUBJECT — AND OF WHICH NO TRACE IS DETECTABLE.
INSPECTOR MAZER WITNESSES AN ASSAULT BY YOU ON OFFICER BALT GAT AND AFTERWARDS YOU ARE FOUND ON THE TOP LEVEL FROM WHICH THAT SAME OFFICER SUFFERED A FATAL FALL. CARTER, YOU ARE SUSPENDED PENDING INVESTIGATION. HAND OVER YOUR IDENTITY CARD AND SIDEARM.
YOU ARE MAKING A BIG MISTAKE . . . BUT WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT FROM SOMEBODY LIKE YOU?

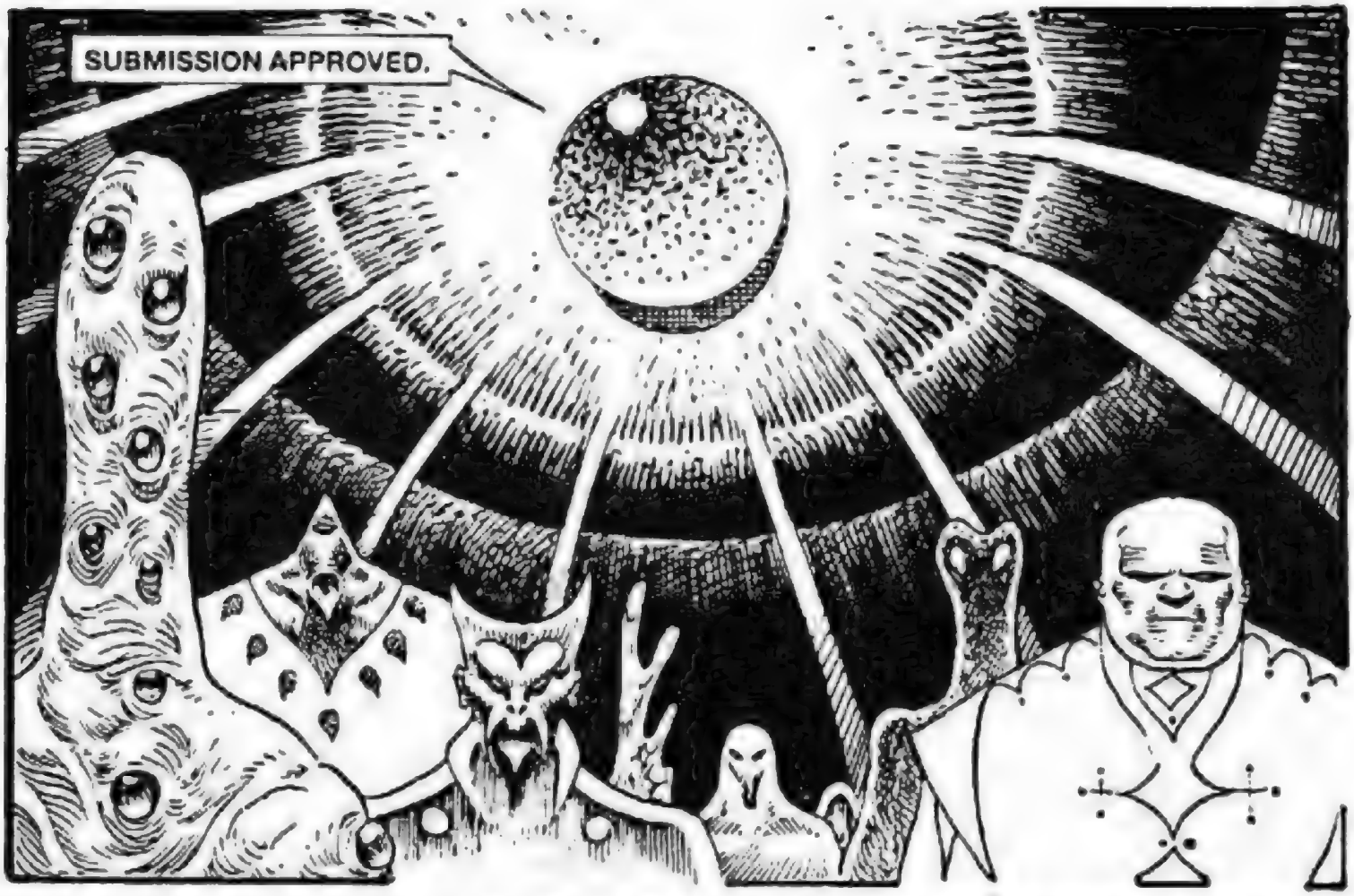
DISARMED, BADGELESS, CARTER TOOK HIS LEAVE OF HEADQUARTERS.
THE NAME IS HACON — DOSS SECURITY SQUAD. YOU ARE INVITED TO ACCOMPANY ME TO A MEETING WITH HIM.
INVITED, EH! SO MUCH NICER THAN AN ORDER.


THE SUPREME SENATE — A MODEST TEN STOREY BLOCK OVER TWENTY UNDERGROUND LEVELS CONTAINING THE SENATORIAL COMPUTER.

OFFICER CARTER, YOU IMPRESSED ME FAVOURABLY AND I TRUST MY INSTINCTS ABOUT A MAN. I HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO DISMISS THAT SHAKY CASE AGAINST YOU. I AM EVEN PREPARED TO RENEW MY OFFER OF A POSITION IN MY SECURITY SQUAD.

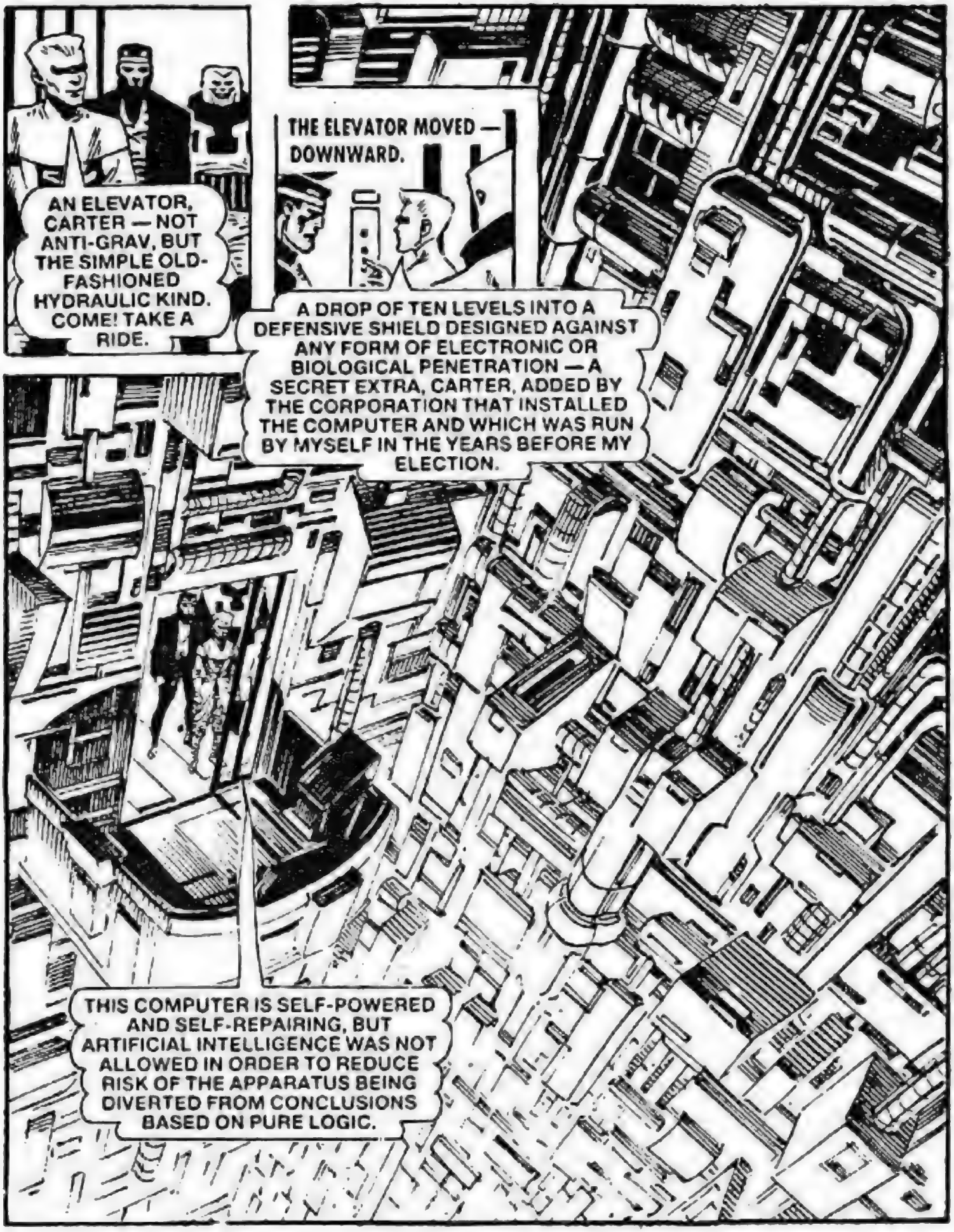
LINK-IN OPERATING. SENATE READY FOR DAILY SESSION.
DUTY CALLS ME, CARTER. WE SHALL TALK LATER.
CARTER, TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT NO OUTSIDER IS ALLOWED TO SEE — THE SENATE IN SESSION.

FELLOWS OF THIS AUGUST BODY, WE MEET FOR THE LOGIC OF OUR ELECTRONIC SERVANT TO YET AGAIN PLAY ITS ROLE IN OUR DECISION MAKING. WE START WITH THE VERDICT ON LAWS AND AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AT OUR LAST MEETING.
AYE! AYE! AGREED!

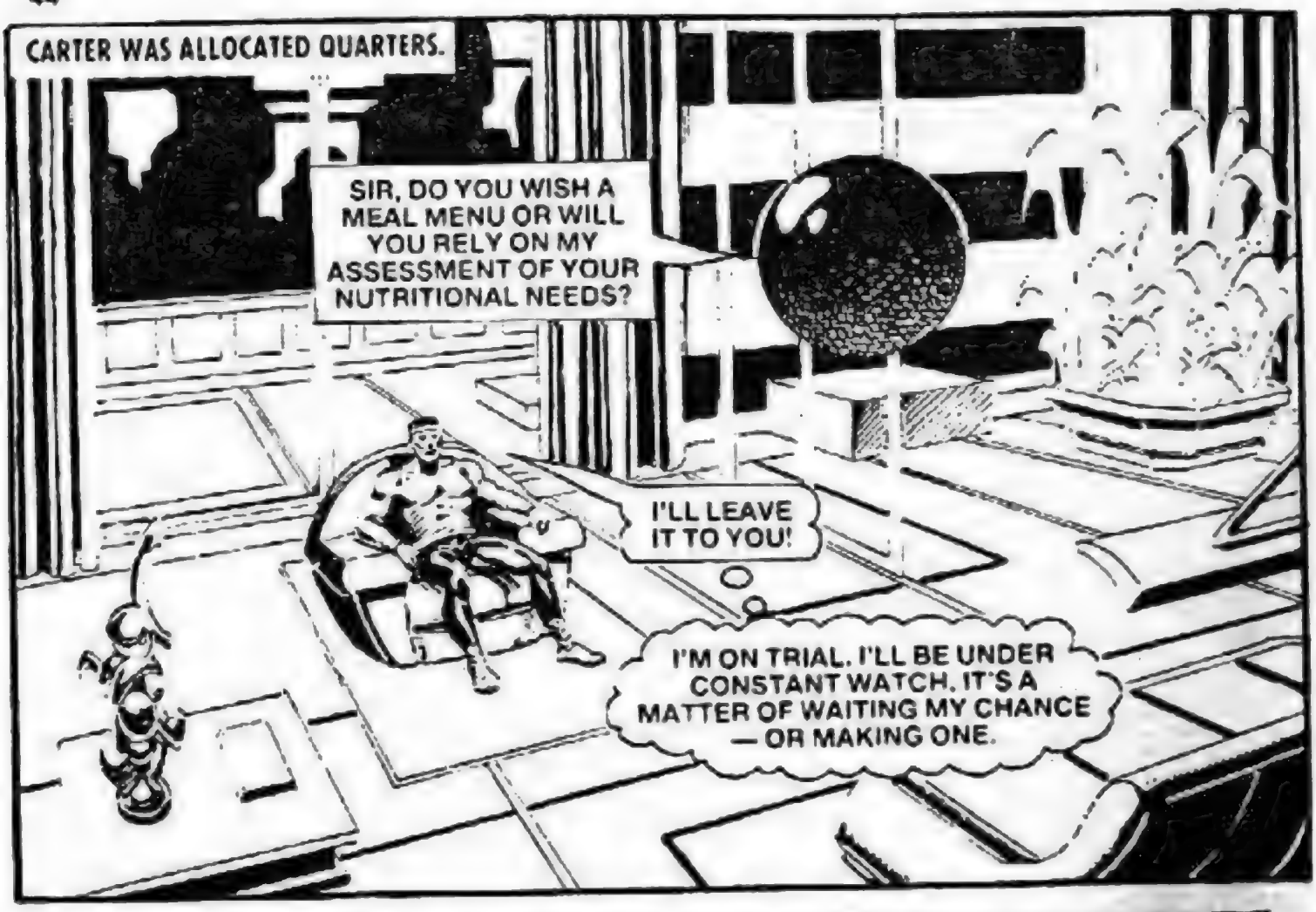

SUBMISSION APPROVED.

THE SENATE WENT INTO FADE-OUT.
THIS SESSION IS CONCLUDED. HONOURABLE MEMBERS — FAREWELL.

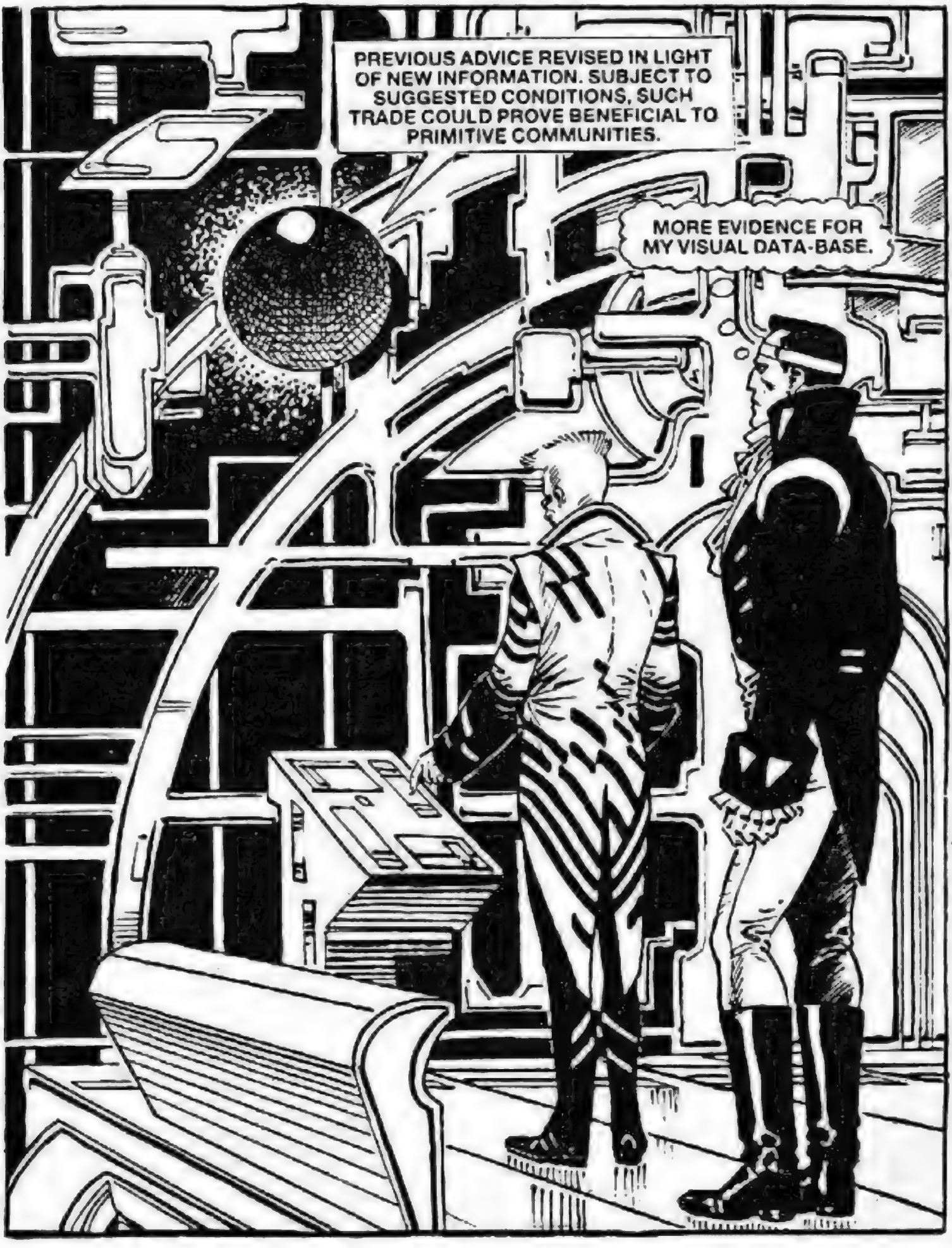
TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T GET YOUR TRADE BILL THROUGH, SIR.
IT WAS AS I EXPECTED — COMPUTED LOGIC THAT IGNORES HUMAN ENTERPRISE. I SAY AGAIN THE GALAXY WILL STAGNATE UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THAT WRETCHED MACHINE. I HATE MACHINES.
YOU'RE FORGETTING THAT CARTER IS MOSTLY MACHINE.
NO, HACON, THAT IS MY POINT. CARTER IS MACHINERY CONTROLLED BY A HUMAN MIND — A GREAT DIFFERENCE. HACON, I THINK IT IS TIME TO BRING CARTER INTO OUR CONFIDENCE.
THE DOSS SPOKE TO A WALL — AND IT OPENED.

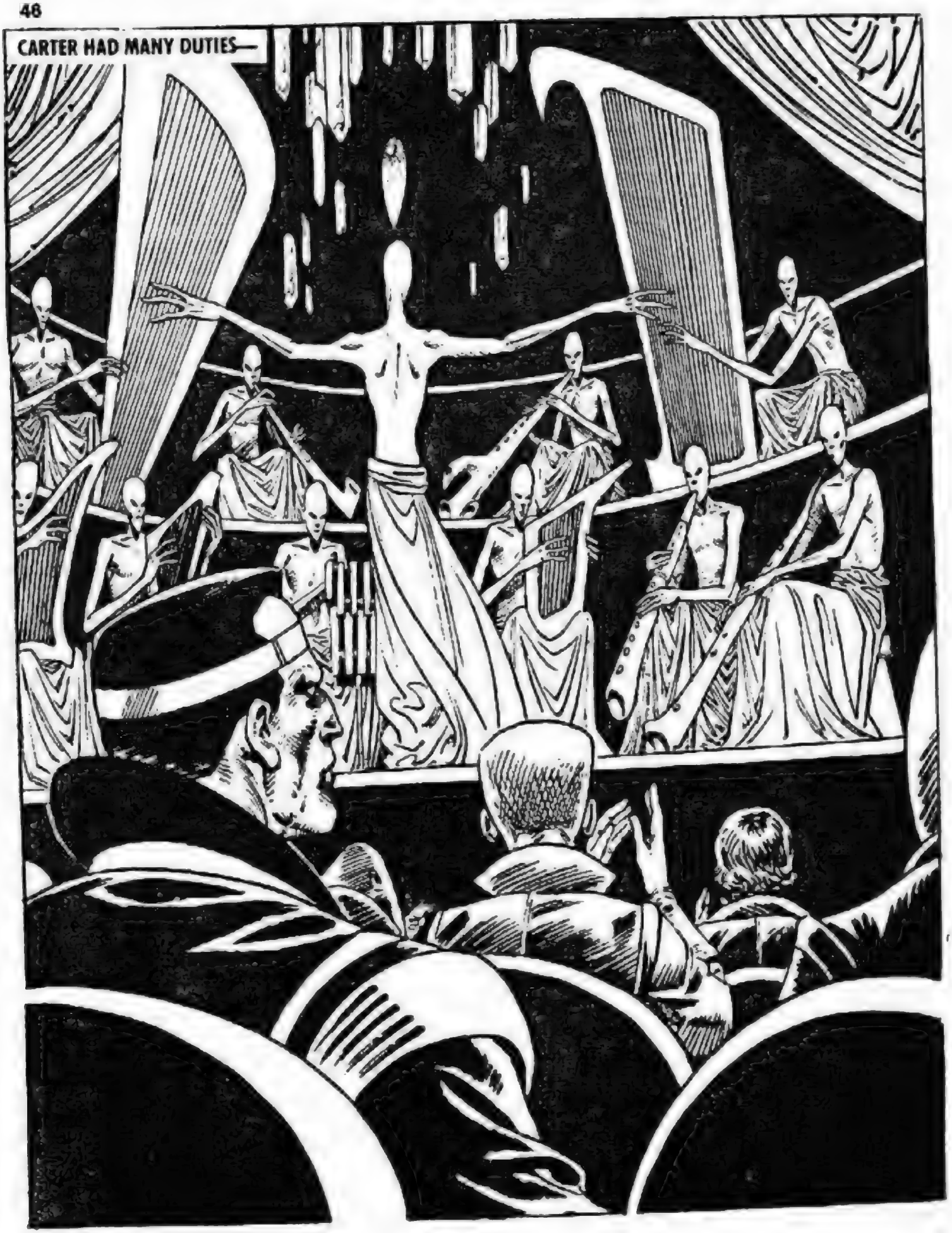

AN ELEVATOR, CARTER — NOT ANTI-GRAV, BUT THE SIMPLE OLD-FASHIONED HYDRAULIC KIND. COME! TAKE A RIDE.
THE ELEVATOR MOVED — DOWNWARD.
A DROP OF TEN LEVELS INTO A DEFENSIVE SHIELD DESIGNED AGAINST ANY FORM OF ELECTRONIC OR BIOLOGICAL PENETRATION — A SECRET EXTRA, CARTER, ADDED BY THE CORPORATION THAT INSTALLED THE COMPUTER AND WHICH WAS RUN BY MYSELF IN THE YEARS BEFORE MY ELECTION.
THIS COMPUTER IS SELF-POWERED AND SELF-REPAIRING, BUT ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE WAS NOT ALLOWED IN ORDER TO REDUCE RISK OF THE APPARATUS BEING DIVERTED FROM CONCLUSIONS BASED ON PURE LOGIC.

ANOTHER SECRET EXTRA, CARTER — A MEANS OF ADJUSTING THE CONVENTIONS BY WHICH THIS MACHINE OPERATES. YOU COULD CALL IT A WAY OF ENTERING FAULTY LOGIC.
COURTMARTIAL OF LEO CARTER! EVIDENCE INADEQUATE, ADVISE DROPPING OF ALL CHARGES.
WHICH ADVICE WILL BE PATCHED THROUGH TO THE POLICE COMPUTER. CARTER, YOU NOW HAVE A CLEAN RECORD.
NOTE — LEO . . . LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.
NOW YOU ARE ONE OF US. CARTER — ONE OF THE FEW WHO FIGHT TO PREVENT THE COMPLETE TAKE-OVER BY MACHINES. I KNOW YOU WILL BE WORTHY OF SUCH A TRUST.
THIS IS TOO EASY. THEY ARE BEING TOO QUICK IN TRUSTING ME.


CARTER WAS ALLOCATED QUARTERS.
SIR, DO YOU WISH A MEAL MENU OR WILL YOU RELY ON MY ASSESSMENT OF YOUR NUTRITIONAL NEEDS?
I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU!
I'M ON TRIAL. I'LL BE UNDER CONSTANT WATCH. IT'S A MATTER OF WAITING MY CHANCE — OR MAKING ONE.

OVER THE NEXT WEEK CARTER DILIGENTLY PERFORMED SHIFT DUTY IN THE DOSS SECURITY SQUAD.


PREVIOUS ADVICE REVISED IN LIGHT OF NEW INFORMATION. SUBJECT TO SUGGESTED CONDITIONS, SUCH TRADE COULD PROVE BENEFICIAL TO PRIMITIVE COMMUNITIES.
MORE EVIDENCE FOR MY VISUAL DATA-BASE.


CARTER HAD MANY DUTIES—

— CHAUFFEUR . . .
THANK YOU, CARTER.
MY PLEASURE, SIR.
WHAT THE . . .
EGH!
MALFUNCTION!

SORRY, SIR. MUST BE A FAULT IN ONE OF THE NEURISTOR REPLACEMENTS IN MY ARM.
COULD IT HAPPEN AGAIN, CARTER?
UNLIKELY — *OOPS!* WRONG. I'D BETTER HAVE A CHECK AT THE POLICE LAB.
AT ONCE, CARTER — AT ONCE.

I'LL BORROW YOUR VEHICLE IF YOU DON'T MIND, SIR. YOU WON'T WANT TO USE ONE IN SUCH DAMAGED CONDITION.
THE SAME GOES FOR YOU, CARTER. DO NOT REPORT BACK FOR DUTY UNTIL YOU ARE COMPLETELY FUNCTIONAL.
QUADRANT HEADQUARTERS!
QUADRANT HEADQUARTERS! VERY WELL, SIR.
EASIER THAN I EXPECTED. THE LEAST I EXPECTED WAS TO GO WITH AN ESCORT.

AN ELECTRONIC MALFUNCTION, HACON.
ITS LIKE YOU SAY, SIR — MACHINERY CAN NEVER BE COMPLETELY TRUSTED.
CARTER REACHED HEADQUARTERS—
MY I.D. CARD.
YOU MAY PROCEED.

CARTER DIDN'T FIND THE INSPECTOR HE WANTED—
INSPECTOR MAZER . . .
YES . . . ME! WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, BUDDY BOY?
BUDDY BOY?? YOU! IT WAS YOU WHO KILLED OFFICER BALT GAT.
THAT WAS ME, BUDDY-BOY. IT WAS ME FINISHED OFF HIS CLONE BRAN GAT TOO.

DEEP FROM THE RECESSES OF CARTER'S MIND CAME BACK IMAGES.
SLEEP!

FULLY CONSCIOUS, COMPLETELY HELPLESS — CARTER FELL.
STUN-JOLT — NERVE IMPULSE SEIZURE. GOT TO RESIST.

SO OUR NEW RECRUIT FAILED THE TEST. THE DOSS WILL BE DISAPPOINTED.
HACON!
I'LL LEAVE HIM TO YOU. RIGHT NOW I'M BUSY HELPING THE DOSS SET UP FOR THE NEXT SENATE SESSION.
DON'T WORRY. LEO CARTER IS ABOUT TO BE RETIRED — FINALLY AND FATALLY.

WE'LL USE THE CHIEF'S PRIVATE ANTI-GRAV CHUTE TO THE HELIPAD, CARTER — AND GUESS WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN WE GET UP THERE?
YOU COULD HAVE BEEN IN ON GREAT THINGS, CARTER. THIS NEW DOSS KNOWS HOW TO LOOK AFTER COPS WHO SERVE HIM WELL. LIKE ME, BUDDY-BOY — I'M GOING TO BE THE NEXT CHIEF.
RESIST — WILL MY WILL TO OBEY — RESIST.
OVERCOME WITH REMORSE AT KILLING OFFICER BALT GAT, YOU COME UP HERE AND HURL YOURSELF OFF, THE COURT OF ENQUIRY WILL DECIDE. BUT I'LL MAKE SURE YOU GET A GOOD BURIAL!

BYE-BYE, CARTER.
RESIST — RESIST!

HIS RIGHT ARM RESPONDED TO A FAINT MESSAGE.

PARA-GAS WORKS COMPLETELY ON HUMANS — BUT NOT ON PEOPLE WHO AREN'T ALL HUMAN.
INSPECTOR! DON'T GO JUST YET.
CARTER!

TOO SLOW, INSPECTOR.
DEAD! I STRUCK TOO HARD. PITY, I WOULD HAVE PREFERRED THIS ONE TO HAVE ANSWERED IN COURT FOR THE MURDERS OF THE GAT CLONES.

CARTER USED HIS SPECIAL DOSS SECURITY SQUAD PASS TO ENTER THE SENATE BUILDING.
THE SESSION GATHERING IN HOLOGRAM IMAGE — BUT WHERE ARE THE DOSS AND HACON?
OPEN TO ME!
IT OPENS. THE DOSS MADE A MISTAKE IN NOT HAVING THE CONTROL SYNTHESIZED JUST TO HIS VOICE TONE.

THE LIFT-CAGE! THEY'RE DOWN IN THE DOSS'S PRIVATE INPUT CONTROL.
IT'S CARTER!
DEAL WITH HIM. DO NOT BOTHER ME WITH TRIVIA.

THE QUICKER-THAN-HUMAN REFLEXES OF CARTER CAUSED HACON TO MISS.

CARTER DID NOT MISS.

CARTER, LET US TALK THIS OVER. I LIKE YOU. I TRUSTED YOU.
I SAVED YOUR LIFE BY KILLING A COP THAT HAD DISCOVERED WHAT YOU WERE DOING. ALAS, I HAVE TO ARREST YOU!
CARTER, YOU CANNOT TAKE THE SIDE OF MACHINES AGAINST MAN. YOU CANNOT — HUH — URH!
CAREFUL, SIR. DON'T FALL OVER!

OH, DEAR . . . NOW I CAN'T ARREST HIM!
AAHHHHH!

LATER, AFTER CHIEF WATIL HAD TAKEN CHARGE.
A TRICKY PROBLEM, CARTER. THE EXACT TRUTH OF THIS SITUATION WOULD ONLY DISTRESS THE PUBLIC. THE FACT THAT YOU KILLED A COP WHO TURNED OUT TO BE DOING THE RIGHT THING IS A TROUBLESOME PROBLEM. SO I'M SENDING YOU BACK INTO SPACE!

Printed and Published in Great Britain by D. C. THOMSON & CO., LTD.,
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So that we can produce the kind of stories you want to read, please fill in the questionnaire on this page and send it to "Starblazer", D. C. Thomson & Co. Ltd., 185 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2HS.

If you don't want to cut your issue of "Starblazer", you can copy the questionnaire onto a sheet of paper.

And there's a chance to win a full-colour print of one of our new-style wraparound covers!

The senders of the ten letters which we judge to be the most informative will each receive one of the prints. We want to hear from you NOW!

**Name** ..... **Age** .....

**Address** .....

What kind of science fiction do you most enjoy? Please tick appropriate boxes. If you dislike any type of story, place a cross in the box.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **SUPERHEROES** | ☐ | ☐ | **FANTASY** |
| **DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS** | ☐ | ☐ | **SWORD AND SORCERY** |
| **POST HOLOCAUST** | ☐ | ☐ | **HORROR** |
| **ADVENTURE** | ☐ | ☐ | **STAR WARS** |
| **HUMOUR** | ☐ | ☐ | **DR. WHO** |
| | | | **MYSTERY** |

Where do you normally buy your STARBLAZER?_____

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Which is your favourite STARBLAZER story?_____

_____

Which is your favourite character?_____

Which is your favourite science fiction movie?_____

_____

Have you any comments to make about STARBLAZER. . . good or bad? _____

_____

# CARTER BREAKS LOOSE

**LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANISATION**

**RESTRICTED ACCESS SENIOR COMMANDERS ONLY**

**SUBJECT:**
CARTER, FRANCIS

**CATEGORY:**
MANDROID

**PROFILE:**
This operative is insubordinate, and has no emotions to speak of. Approach to law enforcement is at best unconventional, at worst dangerous. Under no circumstances should Carter be allowed to work in sensitive areas. Live arrest record is appalling . . . 2% ...elimination of the other 98% of Crimos on record testifies to the use of excessive force.

**CONCLUSION:**
Under the articles of The Law Enforcement Organisation there is probably enough circumstantial evidence to indict on a charge of misuse of Statutory Powers.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**
Keep in the field . . . Carter is the most effective deterrent.

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